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**FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** January 27, 2006**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 09/998682-Conf. #7368  
Patent Number**Inventor:** Adam J. Ferrari et al.**MESSAGE TO:** US Patent and Trademark Office**FAX NUMBER:** (571) 273-8300**FROM:** WILMER CUTLER PICKERING HALE AND DORR LLP  
Donald R. Steinberg**PHONE:** (617) 526-6000**Attorney Dkt. #:** 0109878.00126US1**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** \_\_\_\_\_**CONTENTS:** Transmittal (1 page)  
Certificate of Transmission (1 page)  
Response to Notice of Allowance (2 pages)

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

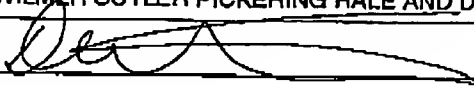
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/998682-Conf. #7368
	Filing Date	October 31, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Adam J. Ferrari
	Art Unit	2162
	Examiner Name	C. Y. T. Truong
Total Number of Pages In This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	0109878.00126US1

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Response to Notice of Allowance
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm Name	WILMER CUTLER PICKERING HALE AND DORR LLP	
Signature		
Printed name	Donald R. Steinberg	
Date	January 27, 2006	Reg. No. 37,241

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Dated: January 27, 2006	Signature: <u>Gert Bellavia</u> (Gert Bellavia)

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JAN 27 2006  
PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Ferrari, et al.	)	Examiner:	Truong, Cam Y T
		)		
Serial No.:	09/998,682	)	Art Unit:	2162
		)		
Filed:	October 31, 2001	)	Confirmation No.:	7368
		)		
Entitled:	Hierarchical data-driven search and navigation system and method for information retrieval	)	Atty. Docket No.:	109878.126 US1
		)		

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January 27, 2006  
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Geri Bellavia  
Geri Bellavia

MS Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed December 23, 2005, Applicants confirm that the changes to the claims are acceptable and thank the Examiner for her assistance with modifying the claims.

The Examiner has highlighted certain portions of the independent claims in the reasons for Allowance. Applicants agree that the combinations set forth in the independent claims are patentable over the prior art. Applicants note that the dependent claims set forth additional limitations that further distinguish the prior art.


Appl. No. : 09/998,682  
Response Dated : 1/27/2006

Attorney Docket No.: 109878.126 US1

Applicants note that some changes, such as the deletion of the words "at least" from the independent claims, should be understood only to remove redundant language and not to narrow or otherwise change the meaning of the claims in any manner.

Date: January 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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